

POCAHONTAS TIMES.

VOL. 13, NO. 1.

MARLINTON, WEST VIRGINIA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1895.

\$1.00 IN ADVANCE.

Official Directory of Pocahontas.

Judge of Circuit Court, A. N. Campbell.
Prosecuting Attorney, L. M. McClintic.
Sheriff, J. C. Arbogast.
Deputy Sheriff, R. K. Burns.
Clerk Circuit Court, J. H. Patterson.
Assessor, C. O. Arbogast.
Commissioners Co Court, G. M. Kee,
A. Barlow.
County Surveyor, George Baxter.
Coroner, George P. Moore.
County Board of Health, Dr. J. W. Price, L. M. McClintic, M. J. McNeel, J. C. Arbogast.
Justices: A. C. L. Gatewood, Split Rock; Charles Cook, Edray; W. H. Grose, Huntersville; Wm. L. Brown, Dunmore; G. B. Curry, Academy; Thomas Bruffey, Lebelia.

THE COURTS.

Circuit Court convenes on the first Tuesday in April, third Tuesday in June, and third Tuesday in October. County Court convenes on the first Tuesday in January, March, October, and second Tuesday in July. July is levy term.

LAW CARDS.

N. C. McNEIL,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Will practice in the Courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Court of Appeals of the State of West Virginia.

L. M. McCLINTIC,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Will practice in the Courts of Pocahontas and adjoining counties and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

H. S. RUCKER,
ATTY. AT LAW & NOTARY PUBLIC
HUNTERSVILLE, W. VA.

Will practice in the courts of Pocahontas county and in the Supreme Court of Appeals.

J. W. ARBUCKLE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
LEWISBURG, W. VA.

Will practice in the courts of Greenbrier and Pocahontas counties. Prompt attention given to claims for collection in Pocahontas county.

W. A. BRATTON,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Prompt and careful attention given to all legal business.

ANDREW PRICE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Will be found at Times Office.

SAM. B. SCOTT, JR.,
LAWYER,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

All legal business will receive prompt attention.

H. M. LOCKRIDGE,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
HUNTERSVILLE, W. VA.

Prompt and careful attention given to all legal work.

DR. O. J. CAMPBELL,
DENTIST,
MONTEREY, VA.

Will visit Pocahontas County at least twice a year. The exact date of his visit will appear in this paper.

DR. J. H. WEYMOUTH,
RESIDENT DENTIST,
BEVERLY, W. VA.

Will visit Pocahontas County every spring and fall. The exact date of each visit will appear in The Times.

J. M. CUNNINGHAM, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN & SURGEON,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Office next door to H. A. Yeager's Hotel. Residence opposite Hotel. All calls promptly answered.

M. F. GIESEY,
Architect and Superintendent,
Room, 19, Reilly Block,
Wheeling, W. Va.

PATTERSON SIMMONS,
MARLINTON, W. VA.

Plasterer and Contractor.
Work done on short notice.

A good portion of our space, as will be noticed, is taken up this week in educational service. The letter from Superintendent Barlow is well worth the careful consideration of all. When we think of the great importance of educational work; that upon it depends the question of our country's continuance, and that to the individual it means the part he will play in affairs as he gets older, we have no excuse to make for dipping into your ears the ever recurring subject of schools. While many a useful man has become educated from personal observation and actual experience, still with the greater number of boys, there is no hope that they will rise above mediocrity should they neglect to take advantage of the schools which the county, at a vast expense, places at their doors. Young people, schooling means just this: become educated and you will belong to the class which is universally respected, who control affairs, and who make a success out of life. One thing in the Superintendent's letter appeals to our sense of justice. It is in regard to the salary of the teachers. We have ever been the advocates of increased salary for teachers, even though the total expended be not increased, but that as it may, when a teacher does accept this pay of \$25 per month, he is just as much bound to make every effort to do good in his neighborhood as if he was employed at a salary of \$100 per month. Bear this in mind, teachers, and if you find that you are not suited for the work give it up. The country depends largely on the teachers, and they can do nothing if they do not feel themselves duty bound.

At Harrisonburg, last week, the jury brought in a verdict in favour of H. C. King, of New York, against Conley Blankenship, and others, in the United States Circuit Court. The case had been on trial before Judge Paul for two weeks. The decision holds valid the title of Mr King to the land as claimed, coming down by chain of title from the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1795 through Robert Morris. The issue in the case has been hotly contested, the land in controversy being five hundred thousand acres and part of what is known as the "Swan Lands," lying in Virginia, West Virginia, and Kentucky. It is not very pleasant news to hear that a claimant who holds under an old, forgotten title, may press his claim to land and dispossess those who are in actual possession of it. Our own section of country is overlaid with immense surveys, the owners of which have exercised no acts of ownership beyond having a survey made. Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, tells a tale of a greedy man, who was given all of the land which he could encompass in a day's walk, the provision being that he must make the circuit between sunrise and sunset or forfeit his claim. He set out in the morning from a mound, and, having made too big a circuit, fell down dead from exhaustion in sight of his starting place, being unable to complete the circle. This state of affairs is something like we find in the contention of these old surveys. Simply because some man walked around the boundaries years ago, who fell down and died before the land did him any good, his heirs come in and take chances with the complex system of laws of America, and take the homes and property of those who have held it in actual possession. The unsettling of titles may be law, but it is very disagreeable to contemplate.

Jobwork at TIMES OFFICE.

THE COUNTY INSTITUTE.

It Was a Success Last Year, May It be so this Year.

NO TEACHER CAN AFFORD TO MISS THESE ANNUAL MEETINGS.—BARLOW SAYS THE INSTITUTE IS NO LONGER A PLACE OF TASKS, BUT A PLACE OF REST AND REFRESHMENT.—THE SUPERINTENDENT'S EARNEST APPEAL TO THE TEACHERS OF POCAHONTAS COUNTY.—THE TEACHERS' INSTITUTE WILL BE HELD AT MARLINTON, BEGINNING AUGUST 15TH, AND CONTINUING FOR FIVE DAYS.

All teachers not exempt from Institute attendance are by law required to attend, at least, one Institute annually, and any teacher who fails or refuses to attend, unless such teacher shall have an excuse sufficient in the judgment of the Board of Examiners, shall not be entitled to examination, or be employed to teach any free school during the year within which such failure or refusal may have occurred. Trustees should not employ a teacher who has not complied with the law requiring teachers to attend the institutes.

THE OBJECT.

The county institutes are held for the purpose of training, improving, and qualifying teachers for more efficient service in the school-room. The true object is to elevate the teachers' professional spirit; to bring together the teachers and patrons; to give the teachers an opportunity to compare their respective attainments in the theory and art of teaching; to awaken an educational spirit in the school districts; and to bring the schools under a systematic management.

THE PARAMOUNT QUESTION.

One of the greatest questions that the school officers have to deal with to-day is: "How can the schools, when established, be managed so as to insure the highest efficiency in the education of the children?" To secure the highest efficiency and to bring the schools under proper management, two things are necessary: First, they must have professional supervision, and, second, a uniform graded course of study must be adopted. How can this work be accomplished unless the teachers hold annual meetings, and the object of these meetings should be to find out and adopt the true answer to the above question. Our schools must be graded, and this work will be the leading feature of the institute work this year. The work of grading the schools depends upon the teachers, and as an effort will be made to get the teachers to understand the Graded Course of Study for the West Virginia School, prepared by State Superintendent Lewis, I feel that they (the teachers) will put forth their utmost efforts to secure the proper grading of our schools.

THE COUNTRY AND VILLAGE SCHOOLS.

We realize that "the common school system is the hope of our country," when we remember that only about fifteen per cent. of the children in our elementary schools ever reach the high school, and it becomes evident that those educational agencies designed to advance the masses and to conserve the highest interest of the State must be concentrated in the common schools. "In the millions of youths in these schools to-day are centered the hopes and interests of the future. The boys from these schools, and not those from our high schools and colleges, will roll up the future majorities in our country. For many years to come the battle-ground of the republic must be the public school, and the instruction here imparted will determine the future battle-cry of American civilization."

"The public school! Oh let its light shine through our country's story; Here lies her wealth, her strength, her Here rests her future glory." [might,

What an interest, therefore, centers in the public school! How great its influence upon this and succeeding generations! Of such importance is the public school system that we cannot spend too much time in preparing ourselves for the great work—teaching. The schools need the best thoughts of the best educators. The teacher's mission is not simply to teach the different branches, but to purify the springs of human action, and

to render secure from pollution the streams of social and national life.

MORAL EDUCATION.

Time and space will not permit me to touch upon the different divisions of education; moral, physical, and intellectual, but there is one point in regard to the teachers' influence that may be referred to here. It is this. The manners of our school-children have been severely criticized. We do not claim that the teacher is responsible for the pupil's lack of civility, but the teacher's influence is next to the home influence, and all the instruction that pupil receives in our common schools should have a refining effect upon his character. The great work of life is character-building, and if the student, with the help of his teacher, does not build a noble character, what is the use of his education? Is an enlightened rowdy a better citizen than an unenlightened one? Certainly not. Then, fellow teachers, do not neglect to give especial attention to moral education, and ever bear in mind that broad-minded, generous, soul-inspiring men, refined, pure, and noble women are not made by text-book alone. The instruction given in youth must be directed with unerring aim beyond the mere study of "arithmetic, reading, and riting." True culture does not consist simply in the development of the reasoning faculties. The child has an innate love for the beautiful, the true, and the sublime; an impulse to the ideal and the perfect. "Shall we emphasize the grosser faculties of the mind and neglect these, the divine part of nature?"

A GREAT DANGER.

One great danger of our educational system lies in the effort to make the common school a high school or college. The school men of our State should guard against the error. J. H. Phillips, Superintendent of Schools, of Alabama, says: "We need to-day in our common schools the counteracting influence of those studies which will exert a direct influence upon the moral conduct of life. Far better omit the rigid drill in advanced arithmetic and technical grammar, if need be, than to send out the million of youths now in our schools to assume the duties and responsibilities of life without the aid of character building obtained from the examples of noble lives recorded in history and biography." It is the teacher's duty to create in the student's mind

A TASTE FOR GOOD LITERATURE.

J. N. David said: "To create the habit in one pupil of reading intelligently and appreciatively the purest and most elevating in literature, is a jewel far more valuable in the crown of a teacher's success than to have taught the contents of a hundred text-books to as many pupils." When you go to your school-room at the beginning of your school term of '95 and '96, keep the above quotation in your mind, and aim to create in your pupils the habit of reading the products of master minds in prose and verse. No one can accomplish this work better than the teacher. For the child's habits and tastes in literature the teacher is responsible to a greater extent than the parent.

THE WAGE PROBLEM.

In the majority of our schools the teacher is required to give instruction in quite a number of branches, and is expected to include in his mental equipment the elements of all knowledge. The salary received is barely sufficient to justify respectable subsistence, much less afford the luxury of extended study. Yet let us make every effort to equip ourselves for the work. If we accept the wages offered us by the Board of Education, let us do our part and be just as earnest about our work as the we were receiving three times our present salary. Let every teacher enter his school-room this year with the determination of making his school a success. If each teacher will do this the school of '95-'96 will be remembered as the most profitable one in the history of the county.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

has long needed an awakening along the line of education, and now let me beg of you to leave nothing undone that will stir the people to a sense of their duty.

We should raise the standard of education until it can be truthfully said, "Pocahontas has the best class of teachers and the best system of instruction in the State."

COME TO THE INSTITUTE.

Let every teacher be present on the first day of the Institute. No teacher can afford to miss this educational treat. The Institute is no longer a place of tasks, but it is a place of rest and refreshment, a place where we can meet our co-workers and exchange our views on the subject of teaching, and receive instruction that will aid us in future work. *The Institute last year was a success, may it be so this year.*

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, fellow teachers, allow me to thank you for your kindness and many acts of courtesy shown me during the past year. Your cheerful co-operation has added much pleasure to my official duties. I solicit your earnest efforts for the present school year. My best wishes are for your success, as well as the educational interests of Pocahontas County.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
D. L. BARLOW,
County Superintendent of Free Schools.
EDRAY, W. VA.,
July 20, 1895.

Our School Teachers.

LOVERIDGE, W. VA.,
July 22 1895.

To the Editor: Having read an article in the TIMES of recent date, relating to the school teachers of Pocahontas county, and being a school teacher myself, I will endeavor to write a few lines, which I hope will be of some interest to the teachers of Pocahontas county.

I have taught school in several different sub-districts in Greenbrier and Pocahontas counties, and I find that a great responsibility rests upon the teacher, and while there is a responsibility resting upon the teacher, there is also a responsibility resting upon the trustees and patrons in regard to the advancement of their schools, but if anything goes wrong the teacher always has the "blame" to bear. Good schools mean good boys, good girls, good discipline, and good neighborhoods, and if we do not have good schools, whose blame is it? Is it always the teachers? I think not. We acknowledge that it is sometimes his fault, but not always, and if we have good schools, teachers, pupils and parents must concur; they must work together, and we believe if the patrons and teacher would pull together, shoulden to shoulder there would be a rarity of "no schools" as we often hear some trustee or patron say, who probably never saw inside of a school-house in their lives as a pupil.

Young teachers, if you want to teach, do not undertake one of these so called "easy schools" because the pupils don't "know much." I find the most trouble a teacher has is with some patron or trustee, who can scarcely read or write his name. They do not always realize that the progress of education is slow, but they are the ones who grumble because the teacher does not make the fires or chop the wood, and sometimes want the teacher to teach from about sunrise to sunset, because they had to go to school before the sun was up, and come home by moonlight. I do not think we have many trustees of this kind now-a-days, but often we hear some one speak of the teacher's "easy time"—commencing at 9 a. m. and dismissing at 4 p. m. We are glad that we have many good school men at present, that realize that the teachers' work, (i. e.) the earnest teacher's work is almost an every day business, and that he has to study almost incessantly in order to qualify himself better for his position. We realize that our school system is improving, that we are having better schools, better apparatus, and we long to see the time when we will have still better apparatus, when each school-house will be furnished with a library, when a flag of the "stars" and "stripes" will wave over our school-buildings, and when patrons will visit our schools and be welcome guests, and help to encourage the teacher and pupils in their work.

For job printing of all kinds come to this office.

Robert Beale, Esq.

About the year 1827, Robert Beale, Esq., of Botetourt County, Virginia, settled on Elk, a half-mile south-east of the place where Mary's chapel now stands. (1895.) A bed of tansy near the roadside marks the spot where the residence stood. The house was built of plank timbers and floored with plank sawn with the whip-saw by hand, and was considered an excellent building at that time. His wife was Mary Vance Poage, daughter of Major William Poage and Nancy Warwick Poage, whose home was at Marlin's Rottom. She was a lady of most excellent qualities of mind and heart. These worthy young persons soon built up an attractive home in the forest, and they seemed fully contented with their surroundings, being much attached to their neighbors, David Gibson, David Hannah, and Joseph Hannah, and the neighborhood was called the Old Field Fork of Elk. The Hannahs and the Gibsons still occupy most of the vicinity, possessing at this time much of the Beale lands.

Mr Beale was very energetic and industrious, and while he owned servants, he worked with his own hands as laboriously as the humblest. It was believed he contracted his fatal illness at a log-rolling.

The Sabbath days were mostly spent in prayer-meeting and Sabbath School services with the families named, held for the most part in his own dwelling. Ministers of the gospel made his home, by pressing invitation, their place of preaching. Dr. McElhenney, Rev. Mr Kerr, William G. Campbell, pioneers of the Presbyterians in this region, officiated at his residence, and pleasant, profitable meetings were the result.

In personal appearance Mr Beale was fine looking, his manners were those of a cultivated christian gentleman. He was sincerely and intelligently pious, and had he lived there is no estimating the influence he might have exerted all over our county, for he had come to stay and make this particular place his home for life. His ideal of a home such as he desired was to have ample pastures, with flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and horses, live removed from the extravagance and allurements of society life, so-termed, have books and papers, and be on pleasant terms with kind and honest neighbors. His aims were rapidly materializing in this picturesque region, famed for its blue grass, fertile, heavily timbered mountains, pure streams, cool, crystal springs, and quiet, sheltered dales. His was the sagacity to perceive that for all the elements of true, happy prosperity for new beginners, no place could excel Elk, as it then was. Therefore it was a really mysterious providence that a person much needed in our county and in such a sense the right man in the place after his own heart, with success just in reach, should be stricken with insidious disease, slowly pine away, and at last die, attended by his heartbroken family and attached friends, his name embalmed with all their hearts could give, their praises and their tears.

His death occurred in 1833. On an eminence overlooking his home where he frequently passed Sabbath evenings in Summer with his wife and little daughter, his grave was made, where he now waits for the Redeemer to come, as He has promised to do, to those who love his appearing.

W. T. P.

If you want to sell Southern property, or attract Northern and Western settlers, advertise in the Southern States magazine, Baltimore, Maryland.